

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EARTH SCIENCES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:94  
ANSWERED ON:17.02.2009  
EARTHQUAKE PRONE AREAS  
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

**Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a leading geologist has warned that some regions of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh are prone to earthquakes as reported in 'The Hindu' dated 16th November, 2008;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any seismological study of the said regions has been conducted by the Government;
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) Yes Sir

(b) Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and parts of Uttar Pradesh lying in the Himalayan range are in the Seismic Zone V of the Seismic Zoning Map of India prepared by Bureau of Indian Standards and are seismically active region.

(c)-(d) Several seismological studies have been initiated in the said regions by the Department of Science and Technology, and now continued by the Ministry of Earth Sciences by establishing an appropriate seismological and GPS networks for recording earthquakes in the region. In addition Survey of India and Geological Survey of India have been carrying out several studies in the seismically active Himalayan region. However, none of these studies were able to make a specific mention of precise location, time and magnitude of a likely event.

(e) Does not arise

(f) Efforts are directed towards spreading awareness about earthquake hazard, risk and vulnerability to save lives and likely damage and for developing emergency response actions by all stakeholders. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is building interface and institutional mechanisms with state government authorities for impact minimization.